Foreign Minister Take

Firm Stand

on Record as Opposing

Terms Made in

Berlin

PEACE CAMPAIGN

London, December 28.—That the Austro-German peace proposals to Russia are only the opening gun in an elaborate peace campaign by the central powers is the belief here. It is likely that the next step by Germany, according to well.

many, according to well informed London opinion, will be a direct pro-posal to the allies, either though the

FIRST GUN IN BIG

McAdoo Issues First Order to Speed Up Traffic Movement

WAR BOARD WILL CONTINUE AS HEAD OF ALL OPERATIONS

Director General Gives No Intimation as to Forming New Staff Now

Washington, December 28. possession at noon today as were frozen and could not be moved. Secretary McAdoo, designated them for the present.

tives, who have been in supreme charge of the roads for the last nine months, were called into conference at 11 o'clock to discuss plans for weld- been quite uncomfortable in the last few ing all transportation lines into a days, but they are becoming accustomed single government operated system. to the cold and snow. They left the treasury department two hours later under instructions to continue their functions and to submit immediately a plan of operation mit immediately a plan of operation to the director general.

M'ADOO ISSUES HIS FIRST OFFICIAL ORDER

Tonight Mr. McAdoo issued his first formal order designed to speed up freight movement, telegraphing all railroad presidents and directors instructions to move traffic by the most convenient and direct routes. At the Senate same time he ordered them to continue operation of their line in conformity with the President's proclamation put-

ting them under government control There was no indication tonight whether Mr. McAdoo Intended eventually to displace the war board with an organization of his own or to continue its organization for the duration of the war. It was made clear, howa better system can be devised.

most expeditious routes opens the way for a pooling of traffic impossible signed to prevent the practice by carriers operated under private direction. It takes from the shipper the right to route his freight as he wishes and leaves to the railroad traffic manager the task of sending it most directly and where there is least congestion. The order follows:

TEXT OF ORDER MADE TO

"Having assumed the duties imposed upon me and in pursuance of the proclamation of the President, dated Dewise ordered, continue the operation would be there several days. of your road in conformity with said proclamation. You are requested to make every possible effort to increase efficiency and to move traffic by the most convenient and expeditious routes. I confidently count on your had been selected at random from a and effective work that this war can had been heard favoring the adminbe won and America's future be se- istration and one opposing it.

lieve a complete unification of all the coal investigation with W. B. Colrail systems can be brought about ver of the federal trade commission overnight even with legal restrictions continuing as witness. He disagreed lifted, he fully expects measures taken with the statement of Fuel Adminunder government control will remove some of the obstacles that now prevent the rapid movement of freight. Members of the war board were requested to study the situation and report on any measures to relieve congestion the witness that miners were making such high wages that they could earn

legal assistants will be John Barton Payne of Chicago, now legal adviser to Chairman Hurley of the shipping board. He asked the war board today for a complete chart of its organi gation, which was furnished tonight. In drafting into service the war board organization, the director general takes over the services of all the board's committees, including the operating committee of eastern railroads, headed by A. W. Thompson of the Ealtimore and Ohio. He obtains the services as well of the board's car service commission, which now is assisting the interstate commerce commission in distributing cars.

ling of ratiroad equipment, already started by the war board, will be carried much further under government operation. Common use especially will be nade of terminal facilities and Mr. Mc-Adou asked the war board today for a LaFollette Expelled special report on terminal facilities and the extent to which they may be pooled. NON-ESSENTIALS WILL

BE DENIED ALL RIGHTS An early measure to relieve congestion, it was intimated tonight, will be a de-

nial of transportation to non-essential commodities. Traffic that is considered (Continued on Page Two)

GO Three of Pershing's Men Reported Killed AGAIN FOLLOW

Corporal of Engineers Victim of Bursting Shell and Two Privates in Rear Camp Fall When Aviator Drops Bombs During a Moonlight Raid

With the American Army in France, December 28 .- A corporal of Am ican engineers was killed and one private was wounded Christmas eve v a German shell dropped near a party of American engineers working trenches on a section of the French front. The engineers for several had been working along the front with veteran French engineers for several had been working along the front with veteran French engineers for several had been working along the front with veteran French engineers for several had been working along the front with veteran French engineers. poses of instruction.

With the American Army in France, December 28 .- During & Of ent moonlight night German aviators dropped bombs near a certain two American privates who were in a camp in a wood were k' German airmen flew low and dropped their bombs accurately.

American zone, interfering with the training of troops and with communications. No serious difficulty has been experienced thus far in supplying the troops in the outlying towns and districts, but it is feared that the supply problem will give trouble if the storm continues.

Motor trucks today were crawling over The railroads of the United the hilly roads at snail's pace because of the drifts and density of the snow. States passed into government Numerous accidents were reported and the weather was so cold that many cars

The troops of a newly landed division, by President Wilson as directionight reached the towns in which delegating to the railroads war they are to be billeted temporarily after delegating to the railoads war storm. Notwithstanding the severe board the task of operating weather, their experience seemed to have done them more good than harm, for the men are rapidly becoming hardened. The war board, comprising five of Former guardsmen of another division the country's foremost railroad execu- carried on their work in spite of the storm, engaging in bayonet, grenade and automatic rifle practice without interruption.

Troops from the southern states have

With the American Army in France, With the American Army in France Thursday, December 27.—(By the Associated Press.)-For three days snow has clated Press.)-Under orders received been falling intermittently throughout the from general headquarters, divisional commanders of the American forces to day issued orders suspending temporarily Paris leave for all officers and men. No explanation was given.

> Washington, December 28 .- The Amercan army at home and in France is rapidly developing liberty feet on which o march to victory.

> Under the hard work of military train ing, soldiers' feet are expanding in length sizes have been added to the quartermas-

Coporal Russell W. Sprague, Middle

Maine. General Pershing also reported five

Committee Wires Food Administrator to Appear on Next Wednesday

Washington, December 28. - Food Administrator Hoover, now in New ever, that it will continue to function York, was requested by telegraph to-The order that freight move by the ing the sugar situation. The telegram was sent by Chairman Reed after the committee had considered in executive session whether a subpoena should be issued for the food administrator, who had been advised last Saturday that the committee expected to hear him to-

Last week Mr. Hoover made several futile attempts to get a hearing before the committee it was said he was delaying an important business trip to New York. Since then his statement on the sugar situation has been made HASTEN FREIGHT MOVEMENT public by the White House, and when the committee met this morning there was a letter from counsel for the food administration saving the administracember 26, 1917, you will, until other- tor had been called to New York and

REED EXPLAINS In announcing the telegraphic request Senator Reed referred to criticisms of the conduct of the hearing and said that the witnesses examined hearty co-operation. It is only list furnished by the food administrathrough united effort, unselfish service tion. So far, he said, two witnesses

With no other sugar witnesses Although Mr. McAdoo does not be- available the committee again took up istrator Garfield that there is a shortage of coal, saying there is plenty of it and the trouble is it cannot be trans-

REED'S VIEW WRONG

JOHN BARTON PAYNE

MAY BE LEGAL ADVISER

Thus far the director general has made no plans for a staff, although it is considered likely that one of his legal assistants will be labor water that the control of the coal dark and included that one third of the coal difficulty.

that one-third of the coal difficulty was due to a hoarding of a "psycho-logical shortage." He said it operated like a run on a bank, that there would be enough money if withdrawn gradually but a shortage if every depositor wanted his money on one day.

PRIORITY ORDERS Evils growing out of too many prior-ity orders for the movement of freight. Mr. Snead thought, had been

freight. Mr. Snead thought, had been mitigated by the present plan of having the priority board pass on all requests for priority.

Snead said coal was the last freight generally moved now by the railroads and gave transportation improvement as the only solution of the problem. He said that within 200 miles of sections of Ohio where people are suffering 500,000 tons have been tied up by the Chesapeake and Ohio railroad, the officials of which maintain their the officials of which maintain their connecting lines at Cincinnati cannot

From Madison Club for Disloyal Stand

Madison, Wis., December 28. United States Senator LaFollette was expelled from membership in the Madison club tonight because of "unpatriotic conduct and giv-ing aid and comfort to the enemy."

Pershing's forces will do their work in Nos. 13 and 14 shoes, instead of the old maximum 12 now of the regular. At his recommendation these two new big PERSHING'S REPORT Washington, December 28 .- The names of the American engineers killed and slightly wounded in action on December 23, were reported by General Pershing today as follows: Killed:

shelling in Lorraine. The communica Corporal Charles G. Hewett, Rockland, tion follows:

deaths from natural causes, none of them southern men.

Then Local Boards Instructed to Continue Filling Vacancies Caused by Rejections at Camp

Washington, December 28 .- Provost ight to appear next Wednesday be- more formal calls for deferred percent- quarters: ages of the present quota of national new classification.

Boards have been instructed, however, to continue sending men to make up deto continue sending men to make up deficiencies in the quota caused by rejection of men already in the service until they have enough men finally placed in the first class. They were notified also to expect very shortly calls for men to expect very shortly calls for men skilled in special lines of work.

ROOSEVELT TO VISIT WASHINGTON SOON Will Go to Capital to See if He Can

Speed Up War Programme

Oyster Bay, December 28,-Within the next month or six weeks, it became known today. Col. Theodore Roosevelt will go on to Washington for a visit at the home of his daughter. Mrs. Nicholas Longworth. It will be purely private visit. He will attend no public functions and will make no speech or statement of any kind.

Colonel Roosevelt, it is understood desires to consult with certain members of the Senate and House about specifing up the war and doing everything possible to make this country's work for war more efficient. He also is desirous of having introduced as a permanent governmental policy, some such plan of military training as that provided in Senator Chamberlain's bill. The visit is made in consequence of the request of Senator Smoot and Congressman Madden. the request of Sen gressman Madden.

WOMEN EMPLOYED IN U. S. & P. RAILROAD SHOPS IN MONROE

They Are Cleaning Coaches, Wiping Engines and Working in the Stockroom

Monroe, La., December 28 .- Because of a shortage of male labor, women are being employed to perform some of the lighter tasks in the Vicksburg, Shreveport and Pacific railroad shops here, officials of the company announced tonight. The women are cleaning coaches, wiping engines and working in their stock room.

linister, His Wife and Son Killed When Train Crashes Into Automobile

Fort Worth, Tex., December 28 .- Dr L. Andrews, pastor of the Firs Methodist church of this city, his wife and son William were killed instantly late today when an automobile in which they were coming to Fort Worth, crashed into the Sunshine Spe-cial o nthe Missouri Pacific railroad at a crossing near Dalworth. The car was demolished

Noted Doctor Dies

Baltimore, December 28—Dr. Charles W.
Mitchell, noted specialist in children's
diseases, and a member of the faculty
of the University of Maryland, died of
pneumonia today. He was born in Baltimore 59 years ago and was a classmate
of President Wilson at Princeton university.

Another Splendid Victory Reported From Troops in Palestine

GERMANS CONTINUE TO HAMMER FRENCH FRONT AT VERDUN

Austrians Claim to Have Repulsed Italians in Fighting West of Asolone-Patrols

Are Active

London, December 28 .- The British troops in Palestine have repulsed a Turkish attack north and northwest of and width and some part of General Jerusalem and made an advance of about two and a half miles on a front of nine miles along the Turkish right flank, says an official communication issued today.

The Turks suffered severe losses in the repuse, which came after the British pickets had been driven in.

FRENCH REPORT Paris, December 28 .- Artillery fightng continued during the night on the Verdun front near Caurieres wood where the Germans made an unsuc essful attack on Wednesday, the war office reports. There also was heavy

"During the night there were ar rieres wood and in Lorraine, in the ector of Veho, where the bombardment became very severe late in the night. Alsace a Frnch patrol brought back prisoners. There is noth ing to report from the remainder of

ITALIAN ATTACKS FAIL Berlin, December 28 .- (Via London.)

Throughout the day there was in creased artillery firing on the Asiago plateau, and the Tomba Ridge (northern front)." says today's official report rom the Italian front.

London, December 28.-The repulse o Italian attacks west of Asolone and east of Monte Solarolo, on the norther front, is reported in an official Austria: statement received here today.

NO INFANTRY FIGHTING and aerial operations took place yester day but there was no renewal of in Marshal General Crowder has notified fantry fighting on a large scale. Fol-

"In the Giudicarie and Lagarina valarmy men before February 15. All men leys enemy patrols were driven back. On who have been called but whose order the Asiago plateau to the west of Canumbers are so low they are not actual- novodi Zotto, one of our companies ly in camp, will get the benefit of the surrounded the garrison of an enemy advanced post, capturing an officer, 26 men and much war material. Between Cesuna and Canova our patrols raided

Be Employed on Naval **Hospital Ships First Time**

Washington, December 28 .- Wome urses are to be employed on naval hospital ships in this war for the first time in American naval history. It became known today that they will b assigned to two ships soon to be ready for service the Comfort, former!v th Ward liner Havana, and the Mercy, formerly the Saratoga, of the same

Both liners have been completaly re nodeled and fitted with accommoda tions for 300 patients each. There will Much of the refitting of the vessels is modeled upon the plans of the new nava! hospital ship now build-

Surgeon R C. Holcomb, now assist ant to Surgeon General Braistel, will command the Comfort, and Medical inspector Norman J. Blackwood, no s in charge of the hospital ship Solace, will have charge of the Mercy.

Bradford Changed Plea Laconia, N. H., December 28.-Morris P. Bradford, who shot and killed Miss Alice

B. Richards and wounded two other teachers at the New Hampshire School for the Feebleminded, on June 28, today pleaded guilty to first degree murder and was sentenced to prison for life. He had previously pleaded not guilty by reason of insanity and his trial was set to begin next Monday. begin next Monday.

Summary of the News

GENERAL NEWS 1—Railronds so under govern-ment control without formality. German submarine reported sunk by guns of American liner. Three of Pershing's men reported British make another advance in

Palestine.
German peace feelers will not change attitude of allies.
Coal mines to come next, is opinion in Washington.
No additional draft calls to be

No additional draft calls to be made now.

2—Packing inquiry is bringing out squeeze methods of big business.

3—Many Alabama enlisted men to be made officers.

Liu 41. NEWS

5—War emergency food agency is placed here by Government.

Two women are murdered at home in Kimberly.

Bankhead highway committee meets here.

Flour and sugar advertisements in papers barred.

papers barred.
7—Many different opinions on of coal shortages.
Fr., 17 . ES
Editorial comment.
—Society and Dolly Dalrympic.
—Markets.

German Submarine Sent Down By Gunfire From American Passenger Ship

Naval Gunners and Others on Board Liner Make PEACE "FEE This Report on Arrival in England-They Claim Convoy Signalled That Direct Hit Was Scored When Enemy Craft Came to View

London, December 28.—A German submarine was sunk by the fire of guns of an American passenger steamer approaching the British coast Thursday, according to reports of the passengers and gunners aboard.

Lloyd George and French The ship was proceeding at full speed about noon in a very smooth sea. The weather conditions were such as to make the best visibility. A periscope was sighted by the watch on the bridge and the submarine was seen plainly by the passengers as it came to the surface at a distance of about 1500 yards ACHIEVEMENT OF AIMS directly in the wake of the ship.

The steamer was brought about sharply and the two guns fired with only MUST COME FIRST TO an interval of two seconds between shots. The second shell exploded and PRESERVE debris from the submarine was seen flying in the air. Afterward no trace of the submarine was visible.

The convoy signalled to the liner: "A direct hit."

The watch on the bridge and the gunners and passengers confirm this English Working Men Go verdict. No trace of a torpedo was seen. The incident passed so quickly that there was no alarm or panic. Passengers who came running to the deck at the sound of the guns were told that the excitement was all over.

U-Boats Reported Captured

Boston. December 28 .- Four German the American destroyers swept down ubmarines were captured recently by 12 upon them and took them prisoner with-American destroyers, according to an out a fight.

American seaman who reached his home. While the transport was still at a her from a French port tonight. The French port, the seaman said, a German seaman, a former Boston newspaper man, U-boat entered the harbor with a white was aboard a troop ship at the French flag flying from her periscope. The entillery actions in the region of Cau- port recently, he said, when the destroy- emy crew explained that they had been ers, all flying the Stars and Stripes, lying in wait for the troop ship in the steamed in with their prizes. The sub- open sea, and that when they falled

portation System

Every Chance for Dif-

ferent Solution of

Problem

By HUGH W. ROBERTS

Washington, December 28.

This is the conviction tonight of

practically every member of Con-

gress representing coal producing

"If such action be necessary to win

the war," said Senator Bankhead, "let

The belief that commandeering coal

mines is an ultimate certainty was

strengthened today by two important

W. B. Colver, member of the federa

trade commission, said: "Distress from

VIEW OF GARFIELD

H. A. Garfield, national fuel adminis

"There are two remedies for the con

sorted to. They are government opera

There is strong evidence, however

that the President will not act regarding

coal mines until operators prove to his

satisfaction that the task of furnishing

then the ultimate step will be taken.

ministrator of each state.

Another indication that the action

Alabama operators, when recently in

Consulate Is Burned

the government take them."

opinions.

trator, said:

roads.

operation of coal mines.

mersibles were lying upon the surface to find her and the supplies ran low, the of the ocean, with their conning towers crew mutined, killed the commander and open, recharging their batteries, when decided to surrender.

Overcrowding and Lack of Will Follow Unless Situation declared: Winter Clothing Cause

state governors that there will be no lowing is today's report from army head-WERE WORST OF ALL WILL NOT ACT HASTILY

> How Training Has Been Delayed for Want of Equipment

of Illness

Washington, December 28. Disease epidemics and clothing and equipment shortages at (Special.)—With the exception Camp Bowie, Tex., and Camp of certain street car properties. Doniphan, Okla., were de such as those in Washington. scribed to the Senate military of great necessity to the govcommittee by the respective ernment, the next acquisition commanders o fthose national by the administration will be guard cantonments, Major the coal mines of the country. Generals Greble and Wright.

Both officers said the epidemics at their posts now were under control districts. and that adequate supplies of overcoats had been received, but they gave dismal pictures of earlier conditions. as the last word in scientific arranged ments for caring for the sick and equipment still existing. Food has been plentiful, they said, and of good quality.

General Greble's story showed condi- shtrtage of coal will continue until options at Camp Bowie to have been the erators produce 100 per cent of their ca worst. He declared the lives of many pacity. They are now producing only nen who recently died there would have 80 per cent." been saved if winter clothing, sufficient tents to avoid overcrowding and proper hospital facilities and sanitation had been provided. He told how the war departnent ordered 12 men housed in each tion, the first of which has been re tent, where, he said, they were "so thick you couldn't walk between them." tion of railroads and then governmen

THOUSANDS TAKEN ILL During November, General Greble said, 2000 men, or about one-third of his ommand, passed through the hospital, with deaths from pneumonia, measles and other diseases averaging 16 daily. the United States and its allies is imcrowded into a hospital built to accom-modate 800, and that without a sewer-

SHORTAGE GIVEN SHORTAGE GIVEN

Shortages in equipment at Camp Bowie on December 23 were given by General Greble as follows: Rifles, 59 per cent; bayonets, 65 per cent; pistols, 86 per cent; cartridge belts, 59 per cent; automatic rifles, 88 per cent; three-inen guns, 88 per cent; artillery ammunition, 90 per cent. The command has no machine guns, Trench mortars, live grenades, six-inch howitzers and one-inch cannon.

"This shortage delays training," General Greble said, but he added that the handicap was not serious

Rye Names Fentress

Nashville, December 28 .- Gov. Tom C. Rye today announced the appointent of Francis Fentress, Jr., of Mem phis, chancellor of the part 2, Shelby county chancery court, to be supreme judge, vice A. S. Buchanan, whose resignation becomes effective January 1. posal to the allies, either though the vatican or a neutral power.

Neither in London nor Paris is there a disposition to deride the German offer as spurious. On the other hand, it is regarded as a serious step by the Teutonic group, which regards an early peace as the surest and perhaps the only method of avoiding disaster.

London, December 28.—Premier Lloyd George, in a letter which he sent today to the special national labor conference,

"Achievement of the pur-Is Bettered by New Transposes for which the allies are fighting is essential to the future freedom and peace of man-

The premier also asserted that statement on war aims could be made only in agreement with Great Greble and Wright Show He Is Expected to Give Britain's allies. The question of issuing a fresh joint declaration, he added. was being constantly kept in view by the entente allied governments.

The premier's statement is regarded as the British reply to the German peace offer.

The labor conference was co vened here today by the parliamentary committee of the Trades Union Congress and the executive committee of the labor party in the central hall at Westminster to consider a "memorandum on war sims." A pronunciamento was adopted with a virtually unanim show of hands, declaring that in continuing the war labor is actuated by a determination to make the world safe for democracy hereafter. No sympathy was expressed in the text of the statement with attempts to convert the war into one of conquest, but it said restitution and reparation and also certain territorial readjustments are necessary if the renewal of armaments and war is to

be avoided. The conference was attended by 750 delegates and was expected to place on record an expression of opinion from British labor on the war aims of this country. Its adoption of the memorandum considered especially significant in view of the peace negotiations between Germany and Russia.

The statement placed at the toration and rehabilitation of Belglum at the expense of Germany. It also dealt with Alsace-Lorraine. Italy, the Balkans, Poland, Turkey and German African colonies on lines similar to those suggested in

FRENCH ATTITUDE

Paris, Thursday, December 27 .- France possible under present conditions. Such will not accept a peace based on condipatience was displayed respecting railmodate 800, and that without a sewerage system.

In September the general said he protested against crowding 12 men into a tent, and gave warning that sickness would result. Before more tents arrived the epidemic broke out. Now, however, he added, there are only 800 men on the production increased. If the situation is the was would go on whether or not Rus-

not quickly made more nearly perfect, sia made a separate peace. The foreign minister said Germany was seeking to protract the negotiations with judged inevitable will be postponed is the Russians, re-establishing commer ound in the declaration of Dr. Garfield cial relations in the meantime, believing this afternoon that he would name a that in this way the Bolsheviki might be transportation assistant to the fuel ad- checkmated later.

TROTZKY PREPARING NOTE

Washington, let it be known that they preferred to continue operation without government supervision, but if that the government supervision, but that if the erties they would accept the new conditions without a grimace. (6:30 p. m.)-The delegates of the central powers to the peace conference at Breat-Litovsk have agreed to a 10-day re resumed January 4, at a place not yet determined.

Leon Trotzky, the Bolshevik foreign Washington, December 28 .- Destruction of the American consulate at San Jose, Costa Rica, by fire today, is announced in state department dispatches. The fire swept an entire block.

Destruction minister, is reported to be drafting a new note to the entente allied embassles swept an entire block. minister, is reported to be drafting a new